

ERIK LARSEN TODD McFARLANE

i
image
262
DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN[®]

EPIC FINALE
SATAN
SAGA
WARS



LARSEN
McFARLANE
fco



ERIK LARSEN & TODD McFARLANE

PLOT, SCRIPT, LAYOUTS, PENCILS & INKS

FCO PLASCENCIA
COLOR

TOM ORZECOWSKI
LETTERING

ERIK LARSEN
COVER ART **A**

GERARDO SANDOVAL
COVER ART **B**

TODD McFARLANE
EDITOR

Publishing Coordinator
SHANNON BAILEY

Art Director
BEN TIMMRECK


Publisher For Image Comics
ERIC STEPHENSON

SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

After Satan declares war on Spawn, he and his minions continue to throw everything they can at Spawn and Wanda to prevent them from ever leaving Hell. Meanwhile, in another part of the hellish world, one of Satan's demons goes to retrieve Al and Wanda's unborn child. Once they see that their child is in danger, Spawn knows he must make the deal with the Devil. But before the deal is completed, a bright light beams down a mysterious visitor neither Spawn or Satan ever expected to encounter.



A comic book illustration of the character Spawn. He is shown from the waist up, wearing a large, flowing red cloak. He has a pale, greyish-blue skin tone and is wearing a spiked collar and spiked gauntlets. He is holding a small, dark object in his right hand. He is standing on a rocky, uneven ground. The background is a light blue, hazy sky. The overall style is typical of comic book art, with bold lines and a limited color palette.

SPAWN HAD A TWO-PART
PLAN--THOUGH HE DIDN'T
KNOW IF THE FIRST PART
WOULD WORK.

IT DID.

BETTER THAN HE
COULD HAVE IMAGINED.




SATAN!

THIS TIME YOU
HAVE GONE
TOO FAR!

THERE WAS A CRACK. A FISSION. BUT IT WAS
LETTING IN THE SMALLEST SLIVER OF LIGHT.
SPAWN HOPED WITH THE HELP OF HIS COSTUME,
HE COULD BRIDGE THE LIGHT TO THE DARK...

...AND GET HIS TWO
GREATEST ENEMIES
TO FINALLY MEET
EACH OTHER
FACE-TO-FACE.



WE EACH
LORD OVER OUR OWN
DOMAINS... **UNIMPEDED!** AND
WE **NEVER** TRESPASS ON
EACH OTHER'S REALM. THOSE
ARE THE RULES! THAT IS WHAT
WE AGREED TO! WHAT **YOU**
AGREED TO! NEITHER OF
US INTERFERES!

**DO YOU
REMEMBER THAT?**
THAT WAS YOUR CONDITION!
SO WHY... WHY AM I NOW
STANDING HERE?

BECAUSE YOU'VE
FINALLY DECIDED TO DO
WHAT I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN YOU
WOULD: TO CHEAT, LIE AND BREAK
OUR TREATY! I'M READY FOR YOUR WAR
OF EVIL. I'VE BEEN PLANNING ON THIS DAY
FOR ETERNITY. BUT, YOUR ARROGANCE
AND YOUR LUST TO ENSLAVE THE
LIVING AND THE DEAD IS ONLY
POSSIBLE WITH THE SACRIFICE
OF A HUMAN.

THE WOMAN
YOU HOLD WAS
INNOCENT.

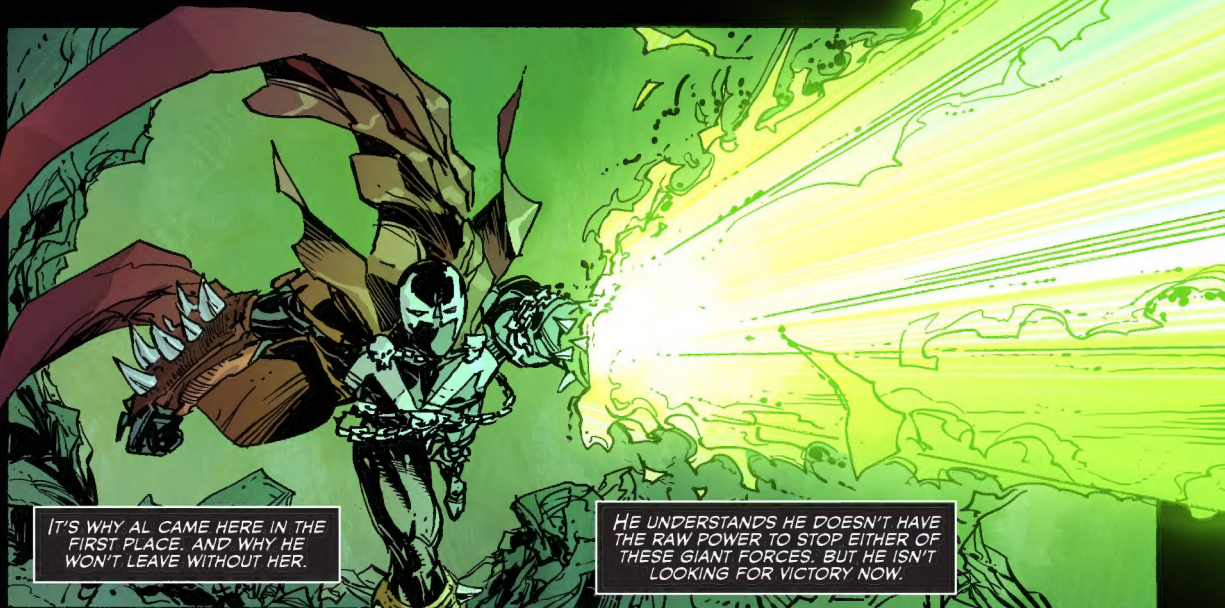


I WANT
HER
RETURNED
TO ME!

YOU
PRESUME
TOO MUCH.

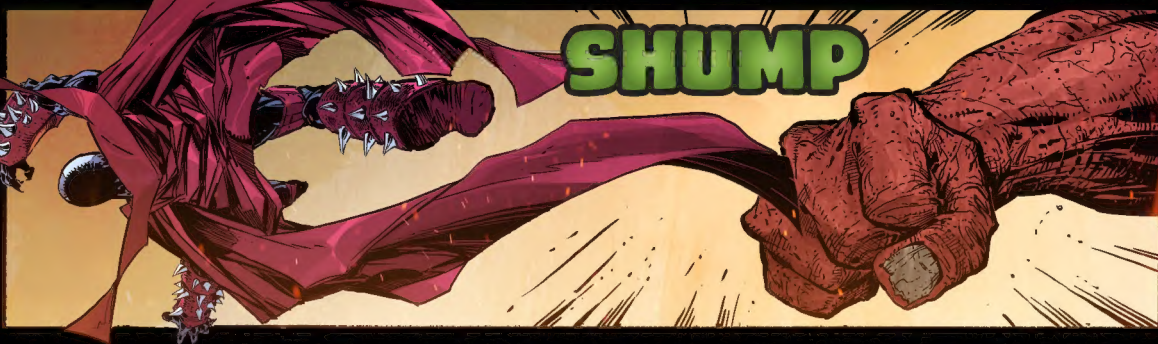






IT'S WHY AL CAME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE. AND WHY HE WON'T LEAVE WITHOUT HER.

HE UNDERSTANDS HE DOESN'T HAVE THE RAW POWER TO STOP EITHER OF THESE GIANT FORCES. BUT HE ISN'T LOOKING FOR VICTORY NOW.



HE'S ONLY INTENT ON BIDDING TIME. WAITING FOR JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT.



**THEN HE
ACTS!**

WITH ANIMAL-LIKE
VICIOUSNESS.



AND THE MORE PAIN
INFLECTED ON HIS ENEMY--
THE STRONGER HE AND HIS
SYMBIOTE COSTUME GROW.



KILL THEM!

THE WOMAN! THE CHILD! ALL OF THEM!

AL HAS HIS WIFE. NOW HE NEEDS THE CHILD.

BECAUSE TIME'S RUNNING OUT FOR HIS PLAN TO WORK.



HE AND WANDA HAVE TO LEAVE HERE SOON...



...BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING ELSE.

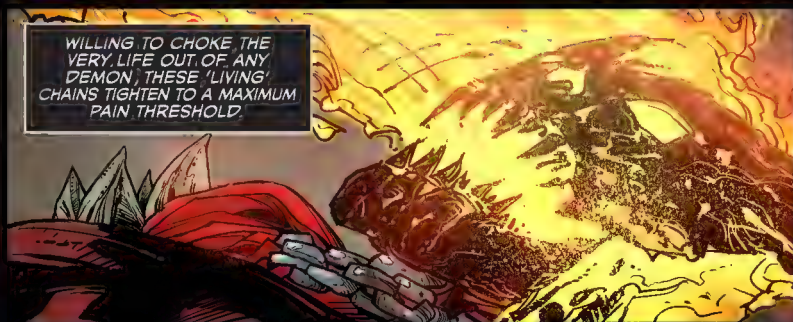


PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE ROCKS!

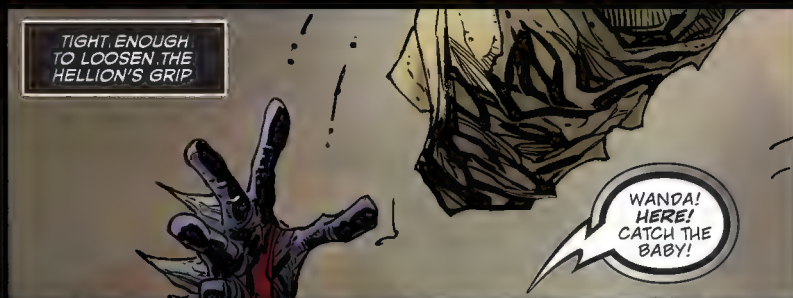




LIKE STRIKING COBRAS
THEY ATTACK



WILLING TO CHOKE THE
VERY LIFE OUT OF ANY
DEMON, THESE 'LIVING'
CHAINS TIGHTEN TO A MAXIMUM
PAIN THRESHOLD.

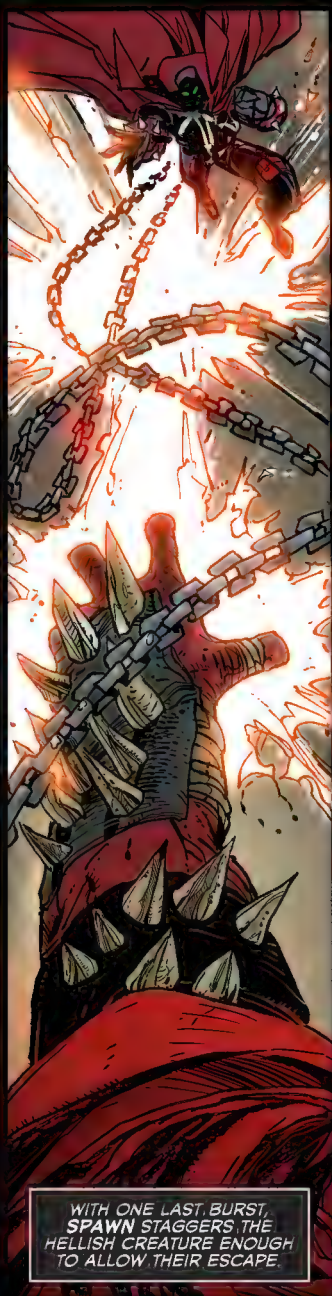


TIGHT ENOUGH
TO LOOSEN THE
HELLION'S GRIP.

WANDA!
HERE!
CATCH THE
BABY!



I'VE
GOT IT.



WITH ONE LAST BURST,
SPAWN STAGGERS THE
HELLISH CREATURE ENOUGH
TO ALLOW THEIR ESCAPE.



WANDA, I NEED YOU TO LISTEN TO ME. I'M GOING TO DO SOMETHING BIG. AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS THERE'S ONLY GOING TO BE TIME FOR ONE OF US TO LEAVE HERE.

THAT HAS TO BE YOU.



I WON'T HAVE TIME TO ARGUE. YOU HAVE TO JUST TRUST ME.

AL... PLEASE. SET US DOWN.



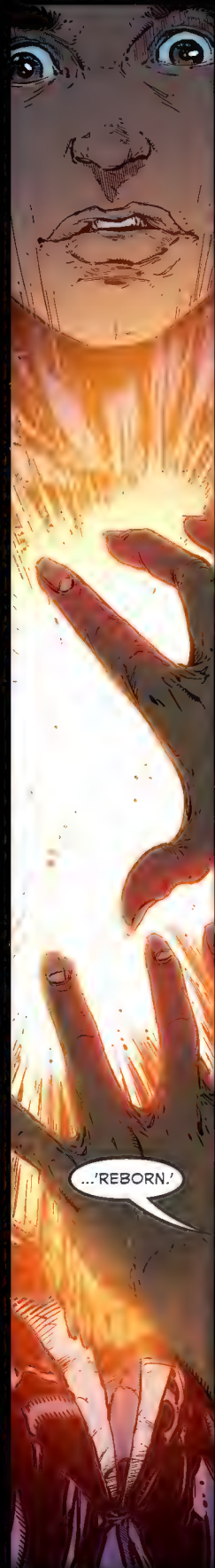
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, BUT I HAVE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING. DO YOU LOVE ME?

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU.

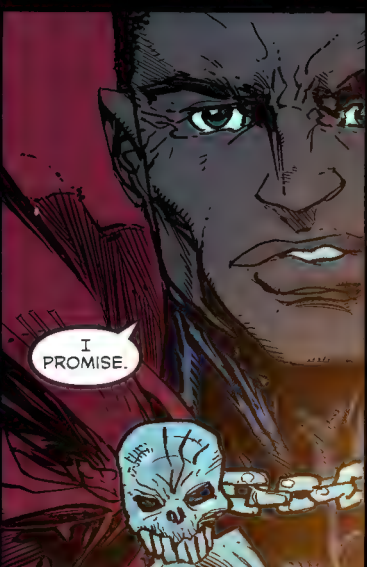
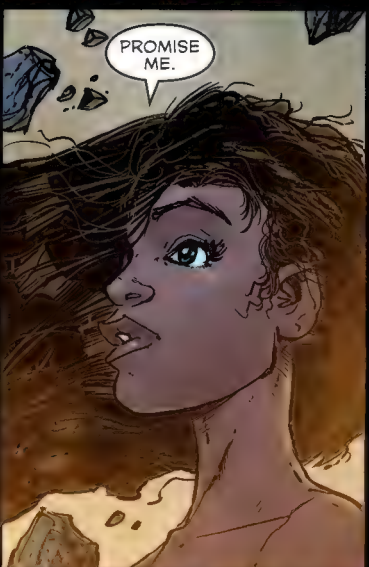
THEN IF YOU REALLY LOVE ME, IF YOU WANT TO SHOW THAT LOVE TO ME, YOU NEED TO TAKE THIS.

THE BABY?

IT'S NEVER BEEN A BABY. IT'S A SPIRIT. YOUR SPIRIT. I'VE BEEN PROTECTING IT, BUT NOW YOU NEED TO TAKE IT BACK. IT WASN'T A 'NEW-BORN,' IT'S A WAY FOR YOU TO BECOME...



...'REBORN.'



MOMENTS
LATER.



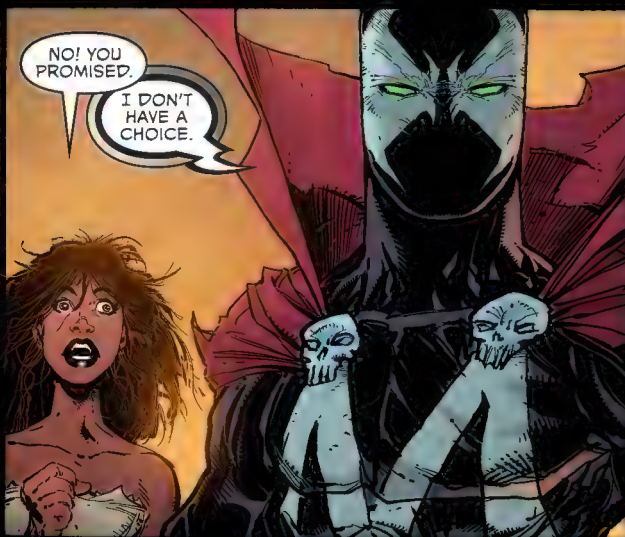
STOP!

NO MORE.
I'M DONE
FIGHTING. YOU
WANT MY
COSTUME?

TAKE
IT!

IT'S YOURS.
I DON'T WANT
YOUR CURSE
ANY LONGER. I
NEVER DID!

AL!...



NO! YOU
PROMISED.

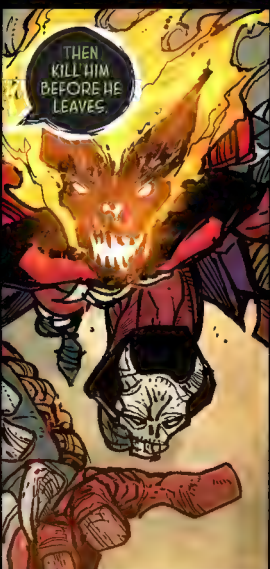
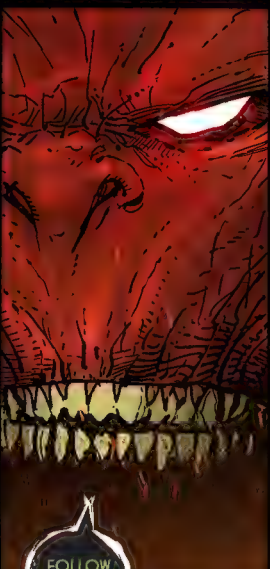
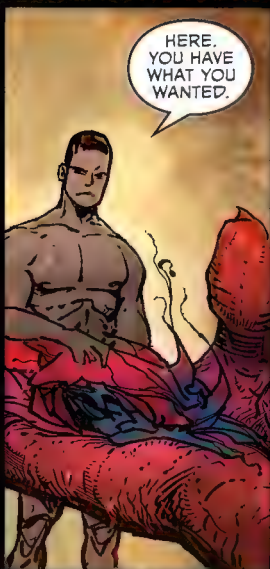
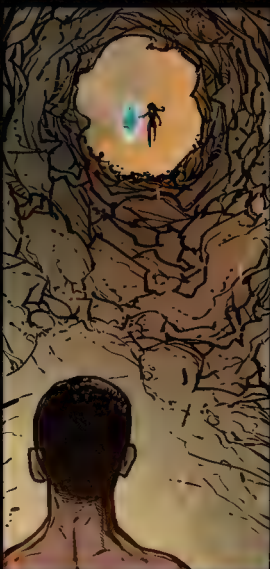
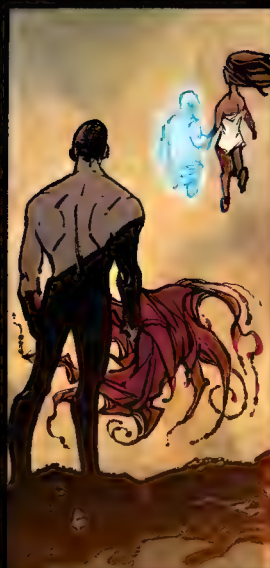
I DON'T
HAVE A
CHOICE.



I WILL.

GOD,
I NEED
YOU TO TAKE
CARE OF HER.

THEN
THAT'S MY
CONDITION,
SATAN.
GOD TAKES
WANDA TO
HEAVEN.



THE KING OF DARKNESS SMILES, GLOATING, AS HE ALREADY BEGINS TO PLAN HIS NEXT MOVE. THIS SYMBIOTE COSTUME HE NOW CLUTCHES HELPED BROACH A BRIDGE BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL THIS DAY.

AND IF IT CAN DO IT ONCE--IT CAN DO IT AGAIN! EXCEPT NEXT TIME SATAN WILL BE DOING THE TRESPASSING. AND WHEN HE DOES, HE'LL BRING MORE DEMONS THAN GOD WILL BE ABLE TO COUNT.

IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE HEAVEN FALLS... AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS, A NEW GOD WILL LORD OVER ALL. HIS NAME WILL BE 'LUCIFER: MASTER OF ALL CREATION.'

THAT WILL ALL BE TRUE EXCEPT FOR ONE THING...

THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN A SECOND PART TO AL'S PLAN.

?

SOME
THING IS
WRONG



AL HAD BEEN DEVISING
HIS PLAN FOR A LONG
TIME. EVER SINCE HE
VANISHED FROM EARTH.*

*Issue 185--Todd


THAT PLAN MEANT
PRETENDING TO BE A
VICTIM WHEN GOD FIRST
APPEARED TO HIM.

WHY HE TOOK GOD'S
SWORD AND WHY
HE MADE SATAN A
PERSONAL TARGET.

WHAT HE
DIDN'T PLAN
ON WAS
THEM KILLING
WANDA.*

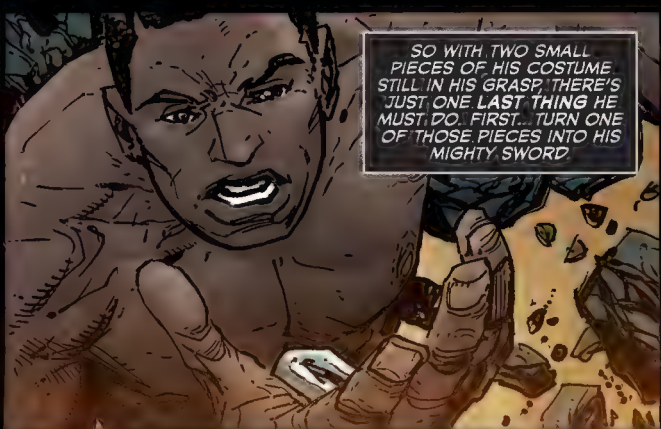
*Spawn: Resurrection #1--Todd

A MISCALCULATION
THAT'LL HAUNT HIM
FOREVER

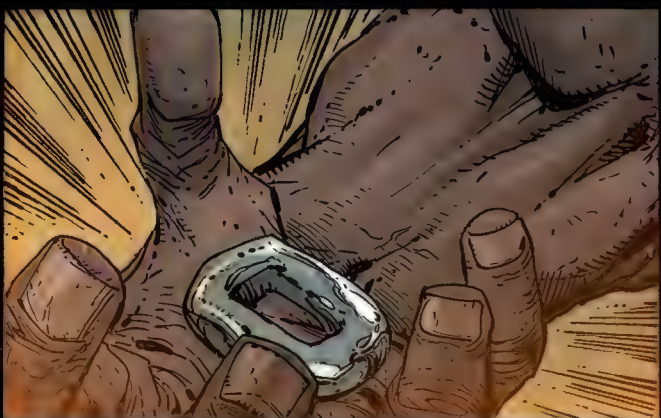


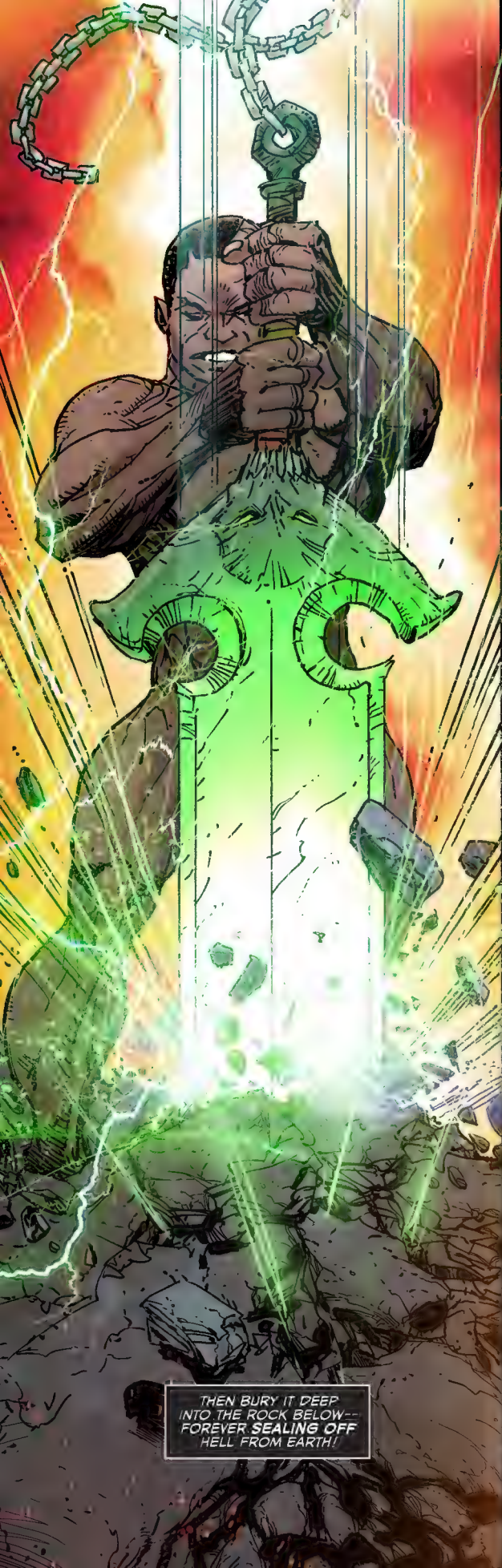
FOR NOW HE IS FOCUSED ON SURVIVING, TRYING TO AVOID THE AVALANCHE AROUND HIM AND THE HUNTER AT HIS BACK.

BUT HE MEANS TO HONOR HIS WIFE'S FINAL WISHES, TO FULFILL HIS NEW DESTINY.



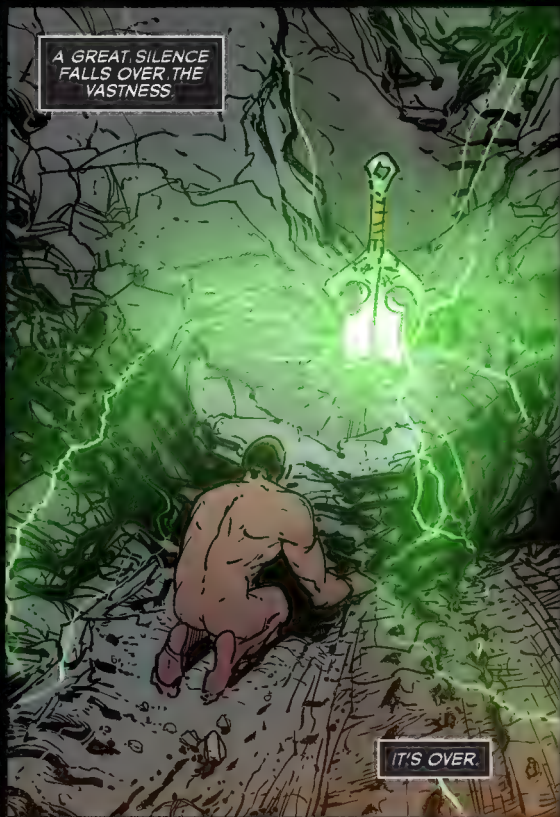
SO WITH TWO SMALL PIECES OF HIS COSTUME STILL IN HIS GRASP, THERE'S JUST ONE LAST THING HE MUST DO. FIRST... TURN ONE OF THOSE PIECES INTO HIS MIGHTY SWORD.





THEN BURY IT DEEP
INTO THE ROCK BELOW—
FOREVER SEALING OFF
HELL FROM EARTH!

A GREAT SILENCE
FALLS OVER THE
VASTNESS.



IT'S OVER.

LEAVING HIM WITH
ONLY A SLIVER OF
THE ONCE-POWERFUL
SPAWN COSTUME.
A MERE FRACTION OF
WHAT HIS COSTUME
ONCE POSSESSED.
FOR NOW, IT WILL
SUFFICE.



IT WILL
SUFFICE

HE IS ALSO LEFT WITH THE HEAVY WEIGHT OF LOSING THE ONLY WOMAN HE'S EVER LOVED. HE'LL NEVER SEE HER BEAUTIFUL FACE AGAIN, BUT HE KNOWS HER SOUL IS SAFE.



AND HE'LL KEEP HER ALIVE BY EMBRACING HER WORDS... IT'S TIME TO BECOME A TRUE HERO.

WANDA?

EVERYONE IS WAITING. THEY'VE ALL COME TO MEET YOU.



I WAS JUST CHECKING ON SOMEONE.

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

I SAW THAT HE IS GOING TO BE... AMAZING.



Next: RETURN TO EARTH



SPAWNING GROUND

Hello all!

It's March Madness at McFarlane Toys!!

First off, the **FIRST EVER** Spawn Coloring Book is out next month on April 18th. Todd put together some of his most iconic covers, splash pages, and interiors from the beginning of *Spawn* to the more recent issues. Get your crayons sharpened and ready to go so you can play 'colorist' for Todd! (P.S. - You can pre-order it **NOW** on Amazon, so you don't forget!!)

Todd also made an announcement at International New York Toy Fair, that McFarlane Toys is coming out with a **NEW** Spawn action figure this Fall. I know a lot of you have been asking for it and it's finally happening! Stay tuned to McFarlane.com for more news in the coming months.

For those *Walking Dead* comic book fans, the Negan Resin Statue debuts this month. And in true McFarlane fashion, this statue is hyper-detailed and just plain badass! You can get yours online **NOW** at McFarlane.com.

Finally, Todd has started doing **LIVE** videos on Facebook. He's giving drawing tips, industry advice, sneak peeks of art and as requested by fans, a look into his really cool office and of course, giveaways! Most importantly, he's also going to be giving lots of **SPAWN MOVIE** updates in the next few months. If you follow Todd on Facebook, you'll automatically get notifications whenever he's live so you don't miss a video.

If you aren't following Todd on social media, here's where you can find him: Facebook- [liketoddmcfarlane](https://www.facebook.com/liketoddmcfarlane) and Twitter- [Todd_McFarlane](https://twitter.com/Todd_McFarlane).

For this Spawning Ground, we invited Gerardo Sandoval, our cover artist for the variant covers of Satan Saga Wars to talk about how he got asked to work on Spawn with Todd.

Cheers,
Shannon Bailey
Publishing Coordinator

How did you and Todd meet? And how did he ask you to work on the Satan Saga War covers?

I met him after a signing at SDCC 2015. I was there to get a signature that I couldn't get almost 20 years ago. This time at SDCC having him in front of me I couldn't let the opportunity go! We had a very nice chat and I showed him my *Guardians 3000* from Marvel and my sketchbook with some of my pencil layouts. I think he really liked it because we set up a meeting to keep chatting. The next day, I brought my original portfolios and showed him the variant cover I did for Marvel with a homage from Todd's Hulk vs Spiderman *Amazing Spider-man* #328 cover. Todd liked what he saw and asked for my email. Shortly after SDCC, I received an email with the proposal for the variant covers for the Satan Saga Wars.

What was it like creating pencils for Todd to ink?

Thanks to the inspiration I got from Todd's *Spider-Man* comics, I became a comic book artist! When I was younger, I saw his art for the first time and it just blew my mind! I didn't know it was possible to draw like that. Todd broke all the rules and it was very impressive. One of my biggest dreams was to meet him in person just to say hi and let him know how big of an inspiration he was for me. Now as a professional comic book artist, I can say that I am still a fan and this was a huge dream that came true for me. This is a really big deal.

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Why did you want all four covers to connect?

In SDCC I had my portfolios with art from my Marvel comics covers. I showed Todd my connecting covers for *Age of Apocalypse* and he liked the idea. After he contacted me, we discussed the idea of connecting covers for *Satan Saga Wars* and Todd liked that.

What are some of the other projects you are working on?

For Marvel I've been done a lot: *Wolverine*, *What if: Avengers vs X-men*, *Cable and X-Force*, *Captain Marvel*, *X-Men*, *Thunderbolts*, *Guardians 3000*, *Attack on Avengers*, *Age of Apocalypse* and now I am part of the *New Avengers* series.

What is your process when drawing?

I have a clear idea in my mind about what I will be drawing before I start doing it. I start by doing some rough layouts with a blue color. Then I add layouts with pencils, putting all my design ideas using rough lines (this step is what I gave to Todd to ink). After rough layouts there are two steps: First, if it's going to be an inked piece I starting cleaning up my rough lines and make them more detailed. Secondly, if someone else is going to ink my art then I clean up my rough pencils and make them as tight and clean as possible.

Todd just wanted the rough pencils because his inks have a tons of details. He worked his magic on them and I think we are a very good team! Todd really knows how to improve someone else's pencils.

What is your best advice for artist trying to break into the industry?

It's very important for a new artist to know that this is a big adventure. But it's not about being famous or signing tons of books at conventions. It's hard to work in this industry because we produce comic books with tight deadlines. I work as hard as possible because comic book companies want to produce comics quickly and with quality work. I can't remember how many times I was at my table drawing while my friends were hanging out or while people were having holiday celebrations and I was still working. So guys, this is not a hobby! It is a very hard profession and you need to love this way of living! Never stop practicing because there are hundreds of very talented people looking for the same goal!

What is your dream project to work on?

My dream project is to live working in my own comic books. But before that, I wanted to be the main Spider-man's artist and that is still one of my dreams.



NEXT ISSUE

Spawn must learn to survive on Earth WITHOUT his powers.

SASQUATCH LURKS IN

CHRIS DINGESS • MATTHEW ROBERTS • OWEN GIENI

MANIFEST DESTINY

• **№ 19** •

.....
A NEW
SIX-PART
STORY
.....

.....
STARTS
MAY
2016
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VOLUMES 1-3

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